



HI-Ω



Volume 75

March 2009

Issue 7

PREZ SEZ

Greetings to all; Well, here we are into another month in 2009. Where does the time go??? The 75th anniversary committee is still working hard to get the annual dinner to near perfection. From what I have been hearing, things are really starting to take shape.

I attended the club classes on Thursday night to see how things are progressing. After rudely interrupting the class in progress, hellos to all and then quietly taking up a seat in the back of the room, I settled in for a nice refresher course on what I had forgotten. It seemed funny that all the little things you've learned over the years get a little rusty when you don't use them regularly. I suppose life is like that.

The instructor was in his full glory waving his chalk and brush, showing great enthusiasm to the class and busily checking the progress of the students and their projects. It made me think that there have been many people that have taken on this role in the classrooms and in the field. These unsung volunteers have given of their time to enrich others in our great hobby. We are truly blessed with great teachers, technicians and friends that share our little world.

Thank you to all the people in the amateur radio world that take the time to teach, work the news letter, set up public events, work on the repeaters, fix the radios that have had the smoke let out of them and the guys that take the time to help others hang wire or just give advice. Our world is a better place because you volunteered you time.

We may not say thanks often enough but I know that I appreciate it and I'm sure others feel the same. Try it sometime and see the smile of gratification that you get from a volunteer that knows the value of a THANK YOU.

Good luck and good health and happy trails

73's

Randy Gottfred VA3OJ

Clothing Order

I have started working on taking orders for club related clothing that will bear the 75th anniversary crest. I have looked into jackets, golf shirts and denim long sleeve shirt for myself and wondered if anyone else would like to get some of these items. I will have a sample pack of items for people to try on. I will try to have them available asap so we can get the order in. This will be a onetime event by me. This order will be the price that is quoted on the order form.

After that time, PRICES MAY CHANGE and you will have to order the items yourself.

I have set a cutoff date of April 1 2009. No orders will be accepted after that date. Prepayment is necessary in advance so the items will be paid for before they order is filled.

Please look for a bulk email or listen to the net on Tuesday night for dates and places that the samples will be available. I will try to have the samples at the club meeting on Thursday March 12.

Thanking you in advance

Randy Gottfred VA3OJ

Randy was at the last coffee klatch at Boston and modeled some of the items. They look great so make sure you get to see them at the meeting. ..ed

ANNUAL DINNER

The annual dinner will be Friday April 17th – exactly 75 years to the day after the first radio club meeting! Location: Slovak Legion, Sunroom. Tickets are \$30.00 each and are available from any executive member.

LARC SENATE

Keith Fiske VE3JQ
Pat Doherty VE3PD
Dave Kimpton VE3AVS
Laurie Bridgett VE3BCD
Terry Stewardson VA3LU
Ed Baumann VE3SNW

ABOUT US

The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club (LARC) is an incorporated not for profit group of amateur radio operators in the Thunder Bay area that meet for self education, community service and fellowship. Our meetings are the second Thursday of the month at room 191 McIntyre Building, Confederation College, 7:30 PM. Our postal address is 1100C Memorial Ave. Suite 184, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 4A3. This newsletter is published monthly except for July and August by Ed Baumann VE3SNW and questions and submissions may be emailed to ve3snw@shaw.ca

LARC EXECUTIVE

President
Randy Godfred VE3OJ
Vice-President
Bob Hansen VE3RVA 767-6924
Secretary
Karl VE3RRP
Treasurer
Joe Coghlan VE3TBX 344-6566
Directors
Brad Harris VE3MXJ 767-0628
Doug VE3EFC
Brian Bolt VE3BCQ
Past President
Bill Unger VE3XT

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club Treasurer's Report

Balance on Hand - February 2, 2009	\$6,920.06
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Income

Memberships	\$70.00
50/50 Draw	\$9.00
Annual Dinner	\$120.00
Bank Interest	\$0.05
Total Income	\$199.05

Expenses

Thunder Bay Telephone	\$47.61
Bank Service Charges	\$0.50
CNIB Amateur Radio Program - Donation	\$100.00
Total Expenses	\$148.11

Balance on Hand - March 2, 2009	\$6,971.00
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LARC Emergency Coordinator

VA3OJ Randy Gottfred 474-0910

ARES District Emergency Coordinator

VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789

Assistant

VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

CANWARN

VA3JMS John 767-3631

VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

Public Service Events

VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

VA3JMS John 767-3631

Amateur Radio**Accredited Examiner**

VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789

lesnick@tbaytel.net

LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT(Mount Baldy)147.060 (-600) Phone Patch

**VE3TBR (St. Joseph's) 145.490 (-600) (100.0 Hz)
442.075 (+5 MHz)
144.390 APRS**

**VE3BGA (Hillcrest H.S.) 145.450 (-600) (IRLP Node VA3LU 123.0 Hz)
442.825 (+5 MHz) (100.0 Hz)
VE3UPP Upsala 145.470 (-600)**

**Minutes for the
Lakehead Amateur Radio Club Meeting
Date: February 12, 2009**

Vice President, Bob Hansen VE3RVA Presiding. Guest Speaker tonight: Robert Mazur, VA3ROM, talked about the different digital modes of ham communications. (He was award a \$25 Gift certificate from Boston's Pizza)

Treasurer's Report:

Terry Stewardson VA3LU moved to accept the report as printed in the February Hi-Q. Seconded by Bob Gillespie VE3BHN. Passed Unanimously.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Karl Hamilton VE3RRP moved to accept the January meeting's minutes as printed in the February Hi-Q. Seconded by Terry Stewardson VA3LU . Passed Unanimously.

Old Business:

Election of Director

Bob Hansen VE3RVA asked for nominations for a director from the floor. Andy Malcolm VE3INI nominated Robert Mazur VA3ROM. Bob Hansen VE3RVA asked if there were any other nominations. No further nominations were received. Norm Bell VE3XRC moved to close nominations, Mike Nawrocki seconded.

The club welcomes **Robert Mazur, VA3ROM**, as the new director, by acclamation.

Ham Classes:

Karl Hamilton VE3RRP reported that the classes have 5 men , 3 women 3 students for a total of 11 attending.

Public Service:

John Sacek, VA3JMS is taking over from Brad Harris VE3MXJ, as the new public service events coordinator.

ARES:

Brad Harris VE3MXJ reports: A quiet month in ARES as Brad Harris, VE3MXJ, is getting organized at taking over from Randy Gottfred, VA3OJ.

Repeater News:

All the repeaters are working as they should.

VE3ONN

The FT-920, Kenwood 450, one computer, and a G5RV antenna are now installed at VE3ONN. ARES members are invited to come into the station and use the facilities. It is planned to be a training centre for operators to use computers and the transceivers. ARES photo ID is required to enter the building, and the secure station area. Members are reminded to sign in at

the desk and also in the station. The CQ100 program is also installed, courtesy of Doug McCormack, VE3EFC. Sleeping Giant Loppit, March 7, 2009. (Formerly Sibley Ski Tour)

Norm Bell, VE3XRC reported that he has a full roster of 18 volunteers with a back-up person. The race starts half an hour earlier this year, and the 30 k starts at checkpoint 3.

75th Anniversary Committee

Karl Hamilton VE3RRP reported that the 75th Anniversary Crests were ordered for the club and they are expected in about 4 to 6 weeks.

Annual Dinner

Bob Hansen VE3RVA, reported, that the absolute deadline for ticket sales will be April 10th. Ticket selling work will start in earnest at the March Club meeting. After April 1st, tickets will be made available to non-members. The annual dinner will be Friday April 17th – exactly 75 years to the day after the first radio club meeting! Location: Slovak Legion, Sunroom. Tickets are \$30.00 each and are available from any executive member.

Operating event April 18th, 19th

To commemorate LARC's 75th anniversary, VE3FW will be operating as VC3FW on April 18th and 19th. The venue is in the process of being finalized.

Special Callsign Prefixes

All club members with Ontario call signs are authorized to use special prefixes during the month of April. VE3s may use VC3, and VA3s may use VB3, from April 1, 2009 00:00 Z to April 30, 2009 23:59 Z. This authorization is for LARC members only.

FYBO:

Seven members showed up and had a good time. Everyone had contacts. The soup was great! Thanks to Bill Unger VE3XT, and XYL for organizing and support.

LARC Membership Cards

They are being distributed to members at club meetings.

New Business

The club received a letter from the CNIB, which detailed the CNIB's ham radio program, their appreciation for LARC's past support, and also included an invitation to continue the club's support of the CNIB's program. Lauri Bridget VE3BCD, moved, seconded by Terry Stewardson VA3LU, to donate \$100.00 to the CNIB for their program. Passed Unanimously.

The LARC Website homepage developed a problem which is being fixed.

Mush for the Cure.

The club received an invitation to take part in the Mush for The Cure, in support of breast cancer research. When March 14th on the Gunflint Trail 11 am to 5 pm Local time. Contact people: Randy Gottfred VA3OJ, or Rick KB0BDN.

**50/50 Draw Winner:
Paul Curtin VA3PDC**

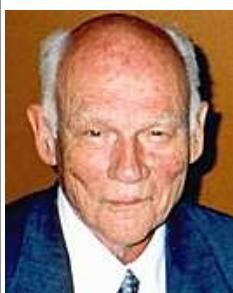
Adjournment moved by Bob Gillespie VE3BHN
Next LARC Meeting: March 12, 2009 –
Come and Buy Dinner Tickets!

CANWARN

Canwarn training is to take place May 8th. Location to be determined

SILENT KEY

Dr. Charles K. Spence



SPENCE, Dr. Charles K. (D.V.M.)(VE3EUL) Veteran R.C.A.F. W.W.II, Burma Star Association, Funeral Director. Suddenly in Renfrew Victoria Hospital on Thursday February 27, 2009. Charlie Spence, age 84 years. Husband of the late Jean (Lindsay) by first marriage. Loving husband of Doris Spence (Dillabough) of Renfrew. Loved father of Ronald (Yvonne) of North Vancouver, Doug of Thunder Bay and Gary (Coral) of Aylmer, Quebec; and Grandfather of 6 grandchildren. Loved step-father of Yvonne Wright, Donna Ahier and Sue Ann Wright. The LARC extends their condolences to the Spence family.

The LARC would also like to extend condolences to the Vukovich family on the death of Matt Vukovich, father of Dr. Mark Vukovich VE3VUK. Our thoughts are with you Mark.

**RAC North East Regional Directors Report
February 2009**

The monthly meeting of the Regional Directors was held on February 24, 2009 starting at 2330Z. As you are probably aware President Goodwin, VE3AAQ resigned as President of RAC on February 24. It was my pleasure to work with Dave and I hope sometime in the future he can again play a role with RAQ. Here is the link to the link at RAC with the full release. <http://www.rac.ca/en/news/bulletins/2009/4>



Bob Cooke, VE3BDB has assumed the presidency for the remainder of the term.

There are a couple of issues that I want to keep you abreast of. First and probably most important is the Bill before the Ontario Legislature to limit the operation of cell phones in cars unless they are hands free. We are looking for a specific exemption for Radio Amateurs. Our VP of Public Relations, Peter West, VE3HG and Canadian Association for Rallysport (CARS) Executive Director Alastair Robertson VE3RAA have had meetings with MOT officials recently. They were impressed with our presentation and we have support from working level officials. We will now work on elected officials. But Peter and Alastair have a good feeling on how this will work out. I will keep you informed.

The other major task Peter, VE3HG has been working on is a publicity kit for Amateurs. It is an impressive document and Peter has many years in publishing and is very familiar with this subject. As soon as it is available I will pass it along to you.

And finally last month I mentioned I was going to operate in the Freeze Your Buns Off contest on February 7. And the answer to your 1st question is yes, we did freeze em! But conditions were good and I managed to work a few stations.

If you have any questions or concerns please email me at ve3xt@rac.ca.

73

Bill VE3XT
North East Ontario
Regional Director

**Every Tuesday at 1900 on VE3YQT
is the LARC 2 meter A.R.E.S. net.**

Freeze Your Buns Off 2009

The answer to the first your first question is yes we did, the weather was warm but later in the day the wind came up and it got chilly.

There were 5 hearty souls who started the day off at the Blue Parrott for a breakfast of omelettes and lots of coffee. The omelettes were good; lots of coffee came to haunt us later.

As you can see the first to get operation from the site at Boulevard Lake was Doug, VE3EFC. He had his Yaesu, FT817 into his home made loop antenna on 20M and made his first contact just after setting up. What makes his loop so interesting is it is a “toroid on a toroid” configuration. Conditions were good that day for a change and it made the day even more enjoyable. Next up was Karl, VE3RRP who put up a pretty substantial dipole for 40 M. The snow was pretty deep and he was in the thick of it. After a little wrench throwing the dipole was up and operational. Since Karl was also taking the Lakehead Search and Rescue course he also used this as an opportunity to test out his survival training and built a lean two. When the winds picked up later he was glad for the shelter.

Then Phil, VE3AXL was operating from Kens van. Talk about the lap of luxury! Again his 817 provided about 9 solid contacts on 20 and 40. Phil used a pop up mast the put the top of his antenna just about at 40 feet. That is an impressive height for a temporary installation. Ken, VE3EFZ was operating portable mobile with a neat combination of his 817 and mobile whips. This allowed for easy QSY'ing from 20 to 40. This provided to be a very efficient way to get on the air in a hurry and be completely self contained as well. If he used the van to charge the battery he could operate in an emergency situation for a long time.

Yours truly, was declared anti social and was operating from a spot off the beaten path. This location provided easy access to a couple of trees that some one had the foresight to space just right for an all band dipole! One of the biggest problems I have had in the past was running out of battery power with AA cells. This booster battery solved that problem. And two days later when my car battery gave a grunt instead of a whir I used it to jump start the car as well. My trusty K1 provided 8 solid QSO's on 20 and 40.

Even though we had lots of breakfast, the cold started to take its toll and we were getting cold. The best part of FYBO is when my XYL, Rita shows up with her soup wagon and supplied us all with steaming hot Beef Barley Lentil soup. That warmed us up and away we went again.

All told we probably made just over 30 QSO's that day and thanks to Fort, VE3MCZ and Randy VA3OJ for coming by and offering moral support. Hope we can see you next year at FYBO.

Bill Unger VE3XT



Mr. Unger blasting the ether



Freeze Yer Buns Off Crew 2009

Left to right - Ken Rusnak VE3EFZ, Bill Unger VE3XT, Randy Godfred VE3OJ, Karl Hamilton VE3RRP, Doug McCormack VE3EFC, and Phil Moorey VE3AXL seated with rover.

SCENES FROM SIBLEY

The 2009 Sibley Ski Loppet was held March 9th with approximately 800 participants. The LARC was there to once again provide checkpoint communications.



Bill Unger VE3XT serving guests at his checkpoint. Is it red or white that goes with ski wax?



Fred Lesnick VE3FAL and special guest operator Clarence Contin VE3WCW. The youngster in the snappy LARC vest was pressed into service by Fred.



Eric Lehtenen VE3EBL, although not operating, was helping out.



Above - The Junior Forest Ranger office is the site for net control Below - Terry Stewardson VA3LU at the net control desk



Our antenna near the top of the MNR tower at Lake Marie Louise



After his checkpoint closed, Chris Chadwick VA3TBA couldn't resist visiting net control

March 2009

LARC celebrating 75 years

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	LARC ARES VHF NET 1900 on rptr VE3YQT					1
2	3	4	5	6	7 Sibley Ski Loppet	8
9	10	11	12 LARC Meeting	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	Don't forget your dinner tickets				